

Announcement of an effort to restore water quality in the Clinch River from Big Cedar Creek confluence downstream to the Dumps Creek confluence and the following tributaries: Maiden Spring Creek and Little River in Tazewell County, Virginia, and Indian Creek, Weaver Creek, Swords Creek, Lewis Creek and Big Cedar Creek in Russell County, Virginia

PUBLIC MEETING LOCATION: Lebanon Town Hall, 405 West Main Street, in Lebanon, Virginia, on May 24, 2012 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality and the Department of Conservation and Recreation are announcing the final study report to restore water quality, a public comment opportunity, and public meeting.

MEETING DESCRIPTION: Final public meeting on a study to restore water quality and first public meeting to develop an implementation plan

DESCRIPTION OF STUDY: DEQ has been working to identify sources of bacterial contamination in the Clinch River and tributaries including Maiden Spring Creek and Little River in Tazewell County, Virginia, and Indian Creek, Weaver Creek, Swords Creek, Lewis Creek, Big Cedar Creek in Russell County, Virginia. The streams are impaired for failure to meet the *Recreational Use* because of fecal coliform bacteria violations and violation of the E. coli standard.

During the study, the sources of bacterial contamination have been identified and total maximum daily load, or TMDL, developed for the impaired waters. A TMDL is the total amount of a pollutant a water body can contain and still meet water quality standards.

HOW A DECISION IS MADE: The development of a TMDL includes public meetings and a public comment period once the study report is drafted. After public comments have been considered and addressed, DEQ will submit the TMDL report to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for approval.

HOW TO COMMENT: DEQ accepts written comments by e-mail, fax or postal mail. Written comments should include the name, address and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ during the comment period, May 24, 2012 to June 25, 2012. DEQ also accepts written and oral comments at the public meeting announced in this notice.

TO REVIEW FACT SHEETS: Fact sheets are available on the impaired waters from the contacts below or on the DEQ web site at www.deq.virginia.gov/tmdl.

CONTACT FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Name: Martha Chapman, TMDL Coordinator

Address: Virginia Department of Environmental Quality-Southwest Regional Office, 355 A Deadmore Street, Abingdon, Virginia, 24210

Phone: (276) 676-4800 E-mail: Martha.Chapman@deq.virginia.gov Fax: (276) 676-4899